GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:63
ANSWERED ON:05.07.2004
IMPORT OF PALM OIL
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is still dependent on imported Palm Oil due to huge deficiency in the domestic oil seeds production; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to reduce dependence on imported palm oil?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): There is persistent gap between demand and indigenous supply of edible oils due to shortage of oil seeds production in the country. This is met through imported oils including palm oil.

(b): Some of the steps taken to reduce dependence on imported oils including palm oil are:

(i) A Technology Mission on oilseeds is in place to harness appropriate production processing and management technology.

(ii) Increasing the areas under non-traditional oilseeds crops, like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.

(iii) Assistance for Oil Palm Development.

(iv) Better incentives to producers through fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP).

(v) Use of indigenous oils in the manufacture of Vanspati upto the level of 12% of production has been made mandatory.